

Board of Commissioners

February 16, 2007 – 8:52 a.m.

Meeting called to order by President Rininger. Commissioners Rininger, Logsdon, and Leiberling and Board Attorney Lueken were present.

SIHO

Mary Beth Hurst of SIHO presented a report showing the volume of claims from Deaconess Hospital verses St. Mary's Hospital. In 2006 there were very few claims at Deaconess and most were for emergency services. The current plan available to county employees is the Sagamore Select, which does not include Deaconess. The commissioners have the option of changing to Sagamore Plus to include Deaconess, but the discounts received for St. Mary's will decrease approximately 10 percent, resulting in an increased expense to the county of approximately \$22,000 more based on last years numbers. The discounts that county employees are currently receiving in Jasper, Owensboro and Perry County will not change. Logsdon questioned if an employee would have to go to Deaconess for a specialized treatment not available at St. Mary's, would they be covered. Hurst looked at the county summary plan document. The document currently does not state that if a treatment is not available in network then the in network benefit would apply. An amendment can be written to add that protection for the employees. Logsdon made a motion to table until the meeting March 5th. Leiberling seconded. All in favor.

Pete Franzman of Franzman Insurance Agency, Inc. stated that the dental rates will stay the same this year.

EMA

Al Perdue asked the commissioners to accept the donation of a snow mobile with 350 hours on it and a blown block. The person donating the snow mobile is asking for a \$500 receipt for taxes purposes. Perdue said it was about a \$6,000 machine when new. Lueken said a reliable value estimate is needed. Logsdon suggested contacting Morris Grimes to get a current value and an estimate on the cost of repair. Rininger questioned if it was worth it with an average snow fall of only 13 inches a year. Perdue said that is the kind of business his office is in; they go into action in the worst of conditions. If a person is hurt in the middle of the woods it is difficult to pack them out. Perdue will report back at the March 5th meeting

Emergency Warning System

Perdue introduced John Price of Via Radio who explained the emergency notification system offered by Via Radio. The system uses broadcast FM radio to carry the signal. When an emergency happens, an administrator initiates the signal that can be sent to specific groups, neighborhoods, emergency workers, city officials, zip codes, schools, etc. Unlike weather radios, it can be used everyday as a regular radio and clock. Logsdon questioned where the information for the data base is obtained. Price said the messages are sent to the specific receiver and it will be programmed to be in a specific neighborhood, zip code, emergency worker, or whatever group you want that receiver to be in. Rininger asked what the complete cost of the system would be. The initial cost of the system would be \$6,000 for the equipment to be installed in the radio station, then a \$1,000 annual fee to maintain the system. The cost of the radios will be approximately \$100 each. Price set up the equipment at WAXL prior to the meeting and gave a live demonstration. Logsdon asked what kind of P.R. campaign has been ran in other communities to get the word out about the radios. Information is put out through schools, the radio station, and other groups. Perdue stated the advantage he saw in this system is that it is always on, as opposed to a weather radio, and it can be used for other things. He sees using it all the time. Leiberling made a motion for Perdue to put together a group of interested parties to discuss and make a recommendation to the commissioners. Logsdon seconded. All in favor.

Old EMS Building / Old Jail Building

Rininger discussed information sent from Prosecutor Dartt regarding a Community Corrections Board and it will be on the next agenda. Rininger stated that Councilman Gogel was asked to walk through the old EMS building and the old jail and give his opinion on whether it could be remodeled. Logsdon stated you have to look at them both together because they are being used as storage. He also feels the creation of the Community Corrections Board is imperative to work with The Way in their mission of rehabilitating the people re-entering the community. Rininger stated it sounds like it would open up more grant possibilities. Rininger asked Councilman Gogel if he had a report on the condition of the buildings. Gogel stated the old EMS building has too many issues to spend money on repairing it and climate control would be difficult. Maintenance Supervisor Joe King agreed. Leiberling asked what is currently being stored in the building. King stated it was kitchen supplies and cleaning supplies for the jail, and the EMTs have a couple boats. He said the supplies can be moved to the old jail until a new building is built. Logsdon asked if the boats can be stored in the old jail. King said he would have to discuss with Perdue. King asked if a gate could be put in the fence around the yard beside the old jail and use it for vehicle storage. Logsdon

made a motion for King to get quotes for demolition of the old EMS building. Leiberling seconded. All in favor. Lueken stated proper disposal of all material needs to be included in the quote. Logsdon made a motion for Lueken to make sure that the quotes have all the proper language included. Leiberling seconded. All in favor.

Planting Tree on Courthouse Lawn

Steve Obermeier told the commissioners that he has completed courses to be a Master Gardener. Since the courthouse lawn is lacking in trees, he would like permission to plant a tree on the lawn near the corner of Walnut and 2nd Streets. He will do this at his own expense and he will take care of the tree. Leiberling made a motion to allow Obermeier to plant the tree. Logsdon seconded. All in favor.

Highway Report

Painter was unable to attend meeting. He is preparing for the potential snow fall by putting down salt brine on the road. Rininger felt it has really helped to keep the road conditions safe.

Lowe’s Card Card

King has requested a charge card with Lowe’s Lumber for purchases for the county. Logsdon asked Councilman Gogel if there were any county policies with regard to credit cards. Gogel’s concern was with the payment schedule and interest fees. Shelton will check with Lowe’s on their policy. The commissioners would prefer King use local business when possible.

Engineering Report

Holstein stated the engineers for Midwestern Engineers were present in case the commissioners had any questions. Holstein assured that they have all their permits and have done all they are supposed to do to work in the county. Logsdon stated he received a call from Rick Wilhelmus asking what the width of the right-of-way easements are on Bullocktown Road. Holstein stated it is 40 feet total, 20 feet each side of the center line. The subcontractor was telling Wilhelmus that it was 30 feet from the center line. Midwestern Engineers spoke with the subcontractor and corrected the problem. Holstein asked if the commissioners had a chance to look over the Orchard Road Project and she said she would contact each individually to discuss.

Code Red

Logsdon discussed another option for community emergency alerts. He attended a presentation by Emergency Communications Network of Code Red. They are an internet based company that uses GIS mapping and notifies people by telephone or cell phone. The cost is \$10,000 per year to the county for 30,000 minutes. The cost decreases to \$7,500 or \$5,000 with lower minute allocations. This would not require people to purchase a radio to be protected. Logsdon said he would like to see a presentation to the Commissioners or the public of the Code Red. Perdue said he is also looking into a third option. Logsdon congratulated Perdue on being ahead of the curve and bringing this kind of information to the commissioners to make sure the community can be informed.

Legal Report

Verizon - Lueken recommended the commissioners sign the Verizon E911 contract. It is a 3 year agreement and the monthly rate stays the same as it has been. Logsdon made a motion to sign the contract. Leiberling seconded. All in favor.

SOB Hearing – Logsdon asked if everything is prepared for the SOB hearing. Lueken stated it is currently being prepared for the hearing on Tuesday. Lueken encouraged the commissioners to be present if possible. Logsdon asked how much longer it will be after this hearing. Lueken stated it depends on the Judge.

Leiberling made a motion to adjourn. Logsdon seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:42.

Board of Commissioners,

_____ President	_____
_____ Attest:	_____
_____ Cindy Shelton, Auditor	_____
